THE

Theatrical Observer.

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate nor set down aught in malice."

No. 99. *Monday, March* 4, 1822. *Price* 1*d.*

COVENT GARDEN.

MONTROSE and THE CRITICK brought a numerous audience to this Theatre on Saturday Evening. In respect to the first piece we, really, have nothing new to say; we contrive to keep awake until the battle scene, when our faculties are thoroughly roused by the din of war; and a few pinches of snuff are afterwards our resort from the subsequent nap-inspiring scenes.

The *Critick* is a very heavy piece to those who do not understand or relish satire. Many around us were yawning and looking stupid: and once or twice we heard "*dem'd stuff*" repeated. However, the greater part of the audience seemed amused particularly with Mr. W. FARREN's inimitable representation of the ridiculed author *Sir Fretful Plagiary*. His performance was received with loud applause. We have only one thing to object in him; that is, the *broad* exclamation of "*Good God!*" On the stage this should be softened as much as possible, for it must otherwise offend many who do not approve of such expletives. Mr. JONES is a good *Puff*; but Mr. EGERTON was completely out of his element as *Sneer*; his voice is not of the proper pitch for such parts—it has a touch of melancholy that blunts the efforts of humour or satire. The other characters were sustained very satisfactorily.

DRURY LANE.

On Saturday night there was a very thin House, to witness *The Veteran; or, the Farmer's Sons*, and *Adeline*. Many parts of the dialogue, the music, and the acting of the former, received considerable applause. Yet these were evidently in some instances rather the result of a partial coincidence of feeling, than of that judgment which is decisive of merit. Mr. MUNDEN ripens as the veteran general, and supports with all his heart and soul the silly campaign against *Miss Isabella*. Mr. KNIGHT as *Jonas* has made himself quite *at home*: and Mr. HARLEY as *Captain George*, seems completely *farce-inspired*. Mr. FITZWILLIAM is more *pat* in *O'Whack*. Mr. GEORGE SMITH is as *deep* an old fellow as a base part could require; and the ladies, MADAME VESTRIS, Miss POVEY, and Miss FORDE, sang as divinely as they can.

In poor moping *Adeline*, Miss COPELAND continues to draw forth many a pocket-handerchief.

CORRESPONDENTS.

We have received the letter signed "A Daily Reader of The Theatrical Observer," objecting to our last remarks on *The Veteran, or The Farmer's Sons.* His "astonishment" at our language cannot be greater than ours at the numerous *clap-traps* in the piece, that catch some portion of the audience and make them flap their wings, whilst their more sensible neighbours sit silently smiling at their *folly.* Too many observe that the *plot* and *dialogue* merely, and in a somewhat clumsy manner, tie together the songs, a few of which are pleasing, and which, with most admirable acting, carry on the whole without any expressed disapprobation, apparently obliterating in the minds of many of the audience all ideas of *dramatic* criticism. We are informed that we have given great offence to the author, Mr. KNIGHT, of Drury Lane Theatre: but that we cannot help: *we flatter no man under any circumstances.* Acquainted as we are with Mr. Knight's excellent private character, and impressed with a high opinion of him as a *comedian,* we have ever felt pleasure in recognising his merits; but there exists no reason why we should praise him, as an *Author,* for relying for success rather on the *good feeling* than on the *good sense* and *just taste* of an audience: amongst instances of which we may mention the address of Mr. MUNDEN at the close of the Opera, which is an unworthy *manœuvre,* whereby the applause apparently sought for the *character,* is drawn forth by a connection with the just popularity of the *performer,* and becomes merged in the *presumed general approbation of the piece!*

Let our friend, "A Daily Reader," (whom we presumptuously guess at) the next time *the Veteran* is performed, go, or if *he cannot,* let him send a deputy to observe the audience, and note the number that *do not applaud,* and yet *do not hiss;* and, then, (making due allowance for the effect of the *manœuvre*) he will have an idea of how many "like" and how many "dislike" the entire Opera.

THE ITALIAN OPERA HOUSE.

On Saturday night this Theatre was splendidly attended. *Il Barone de Dolsheim,* and *Les Pages du Duc de Vendome* have lost none of their attractions.

TO THE SUBSCRIBERS.

In consequence of the great encouragement this paper has met with in the higher circles, and from a very generally expressed wish for some intelligence respecting the *Minor Theatres,* the proprietors beg to state that on *Thursday* next BILLS OF THE PLAY FOR ALL THE THEATRES IN LONDON will be given, and regularly continued. The paper will then be *double* its present size, but the *price* will *not be altered.*

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Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening will be performed (11th. time) a New Opera, called

MONTROSE;

Or, The Children of the Mist.

With new Scenery, Dresses, and Decorations. The Overture by Mr. Bishop, the rest of the Music by Mr. Bishop, Ware, &c.

Earl of Montrose, Mr. CONNOR.
Earl of Menteith, Mr. DURUSET,
Angus Macaulay, Mr. COMER,
Allan Macaulay, Mr. ABBOTT,
Evan Dhu, Mr. HUNT, Donald, Mr. TAYLOR,
Capt. Dalgetty, Mr. LISTON,
Marquis of Argyl, Mr. CHAPMAN,
Sir Duncan Campbell, Mr. EGERTON,
Ranald of the Mist, Mr. YATES,
Lewie, Master LONGHURST, Colin, Mr. KING,
Children of the Mist—Officers of Argyle—Officers of Montrose.

Erorcht, Mrs. FAUCIT,
Annot Lyle, Miss STEPHENS.
Ellen, Mrs. BISHOP, Mause, Mrs. STERLING,

The following New Scenery will be exhibited. Act I.

A ROMANTIC GLEN IN THE HIGHLANDS
The Dining Hall of Darlinwarich. An Apartment of the Castle.
The Hall of Audience in the Castle. ACT II.
The Castle of Inverara, with a distant View of Lo fine andountains
The Anti-Room of the Castle.
Craigs and Rocks, the Abode of the Children of the ist
LOCH LOCHY,
The LARGE HALL in INVERLOCHY.

To conclude with, a Grand, and Comic Pantomime,

Harlequin & Mother Bunch;
Or, the Yellow Dwarf.

The characters the same as before.

On Tuesday the Exile

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane,

This Evening will be performed the Tragedy of

King Richard III.

King Henry, Mr. POPE,
Prince of Wales, Miss G. CARR,
Duke of York, Master R. CARR,
Duke of Glo'ster, Mr. KEAN,
Duke of Buckingham, Mr. PENLEY,
Duke of Norfolk, Mr. BROMLEY,
Earl of Richmond, Mr. COOPER,
Earl of Oxford, Mr. WEBSTER,
Lord Stanley, Mr. POWELL,
Lord Mayor, Mr. MEREDITH,
Sir Robert Brackenbury, Mr. FOOTE,
Sir William Catesby, Mr. VINING,
Sir Richard Ratcliffe, Mr. WILLMOTT,
Tressel, Mr. BARNARD, Tyrrell, Mr. DOBBS,
Dighton, Mr. TURNOUR, Clunt, Mr. READ, Forest, Mr. HOWELL
Elizabeth, Queen of Ed. the 4th. Mrs. EGERTON,
Lady Anne, Mrs. W. WEST,
Duchess of York, Mrs. KNIGHT.

After which, the Musical Entertainment, called

Paul and Virginia.

Paul, Madame VESTRIS.
Alambra, Miss COPELAND, Dominique, Mr. KNIGHT,
Captain Tropic, Mr. GATTIE, Don Antonio, Mr. PENLEY.
Diego, Mr. WILLMOTT, Sebastian, Mr. HUGHE
Sailor, Mr. Howell, Captain of the Guard, Mr. Gibbon.
Officer, Mr. Webster.

Virginia, Miss POVEY,
Jacintha, Miss CUBITT, with the Song of the Mocking Bird,
Mary, Mrs. BLAND.

In Act II. *A DANCE by Miss TREE*